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Newsletter

GRADUATE SCHOOL ★ USDA

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LAND-GRANT ASSOCIATION AND USDA EXPLORE JOINT ARRANGEMENT ON GRADUATE RESEARCH

A cooperative plan, under which certain of USDA's outstanding facilities in research would be made available to graduate students and others from the land-grant institutions, has been proposed to the Association of Land Grant Colleges and Universities by Secretary of Agriculture Anderson. Such a proposed arrangement, to be administered in USDA by the Graduate School, would permit graduate students to secure highly significant experience and material for theses and would in many other ways be of benefit to USDA and universities. Representatives of the GS met with the Association's Executive Committee in early May to discuss Secretary Anderson's proposal. The Executive Committee was impressed with the plan and has arranged for its Graduate Council to work out a proposed plan with USDA and present it at the late fall meeting of the Association. The Land-Grant Committee working with USDA in this consists of R. D. Hetzel, State College, Pennsylvania (President); Thomas Cooper, Lexington, Kentucky (Chairman); Milton S. Eisenhower, Manhattan, Kansas; Ben Euwema, State College, Pennsylvania; Arthur A. Hauck, Orono, Maine; C. B. Hutchison, Berkeley, Calif.; J. L. Morrill, Minneapolis, Minn.; R. F. Poole, Clemson, S. Car.; Minnie Price, Columbus, Ohio; and Blake R. Van Leer, Atlanta, Georgia.

Representatives of USDA-GS at the meeting with the Executive Committee included

W. Edwards Deming, T. Roy Reid, W. V. Lambert, O.V. Wells, M.L. Wilson, Lewis H. Rohrbaugh, and R. Y. Winters. The GS Committee which originally studied this matter and submitted recommendations to the Board consisted of R. Y. Winters, Chairman (ARA); H. B. McPhee (BAI); O. C. Stine (BAE); Gladys Gallup (Ext Service) and E. A. Norton (SCS).

APPLIED STATISTICS AT VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

The Virginia Polytechnic Institute is offering during the 1947 summer session (August 5 to September 5) courses in sampling theory, design of sample surveys, questionnaire design and interviewing techniques, and experimental design for engineering, field-plot and large animal experiments. This session is sponsored jointly by V.P.I., University of North Carolina, Iowa State College, University of Michigan and the Bureau of Agricultural Economics (USDA). Statisticians from each of the cooperating institutions will be on the faculty and lectures will be given by two of England's noted statisticians, Yates and Kendall, and a number of outstanding American statisticians. Detailed information about these courses may be obtained by contacting Prof. Boyd Harshbarger of Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, Va., or Dr. Charles F. Sarle, USDA (BAE).

GRADUATE DEGREES IN AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY--
Supply and Demand

A report prepared by the U. S. Office of Education (for the President's Committee on Higher Education) throws significant light on the growing gap between supply of and demand for persons trained, through the Ph.D. level, in agriculture and forestry. Based on a survey of the 402 U.S. institutions (both continental and territorial) offering graduate work, the report indicates that 131 persons will have received Ph.D.'s in agriculture and forestry in the period July 1, 1946 - June 30, 1947. This is in marked contrast to the 5,080 Ph.D.'s estimated by the National Research Council to be needed, during the period 1946-55 for teaching, industry and government. This estimate was made prior to passage of the Hope-Flanagan Act of 1946 which it is estimated will double, within the next five years, the number of trained scientists on the staff of state agricultural institutions.

The NRC report (in the preparation of which GS participated) indicated that the war had interrupted the programs towards Ph.D.'s in agriculture and forestry of about 900 persons. The highest previous "productive" year was 1942 when about 275 degrees were granted. An estimated total of 3,787 Ph.D. degrees in all fields were awarded during the period July 1, 1946 to June 30, 1947.

RE-ISSUANCE OF NEYMAN'S LECTURES
UNDER CONSIDERATION

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics is planning to reissue "Lectures and Conferences on Mathematical Statistics", by Dr. Jerzy Neyman, first issued by the GS in mimeographed form in 1937. Requests for the lectures have continued to come in from educational institutions and other organizations all over the U. S. and from foreign countries as well. Dr. Neyman, now Professor of Mathematics and Director of the Statistical Laboratory at the University of California, has agreed to bring the publication up to date and it is hoped the revision may be brought out in printed form, within the next year.

YATES TO LECTURE ON EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics, in cooperation with USDA's Committee on Experimental Design, is sponsoring on September 15th, 16th and 17th a series of three lectures on Experimental Design to be given by Dr. Frank Yates, Head of the Department of Statistics, Rothamsted Experiment Station, Harpenden, England. Dr. Yates, one of the world's foremost authorities on Statistical Designs, is also participating in the statistics summer session at Blacksburg, Va., mentioned elsewhere in this sheet. Additional information on the September lectures will be issued at a later date.

1947-48 PROGRAM

Plans are nearing completion for the GS 1947-48 resident instruction program. A total of 208 classes in eight major fields will be offered in the Fall Semester, beginning September 22nd. The Fall Semester schedule of classes will be available on or about August 15th. The complete 1947-48 GS Bulletin, covering fall, spring and summer programs, will be off the press about September 1.

PERSONALS

George M. Saharov (Lang. & Lit.) recently gave a talk in the Russian language on the "Voice of America" program. His subject: "Cost of Living Index".

Dan Braum (Office Tech.) is in Stockholm, Sweden attending the 8th International Management Congress; he will present a paper on "Progress in Scientific Farm Management".

Charles E. Kellogg (Physical Sciences) addressed the Mediterranean Soil Science Conference at Montpelier, France on May 1.

The Newsletter is issued at intervals for information of faculty, committees and others interested. Address all inquiries to Frank Scanlin, Room 1031 (Ext. 4419).